

# ***NEWS RELEASE***

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

October 17, 2014

### **Media Contact:**

Scott Packard, Public Information Officer

(830) 386-2590 (o)

(830) 560-6270 (c)

spackard@seguintexas.gov



## **Seguin Fire Department Now Equipped with Pet Oxygen Mask Kits *Equipment Donated by the Animal Rescue Foundation***

**SEGUIN, Texas** –The Seguin Fire Department is better prepared to assist distressed pets at fire scenes thanks to the donation of three Wag'N Pet Oxygen Mask kits by the Animal Rescue Foundation.

“The Animal Rescue Foundation’s mission is to promote the welfare of animals in Seguin and Guadalupe County,” ARF President Barbara Upper said. “As part of that, we are always looking for opportunities where we can fill unmet needs.”

Each of the three kits contain three specially designed masks that can be used on conscious and unconscious pets suffering from smoke inhalation or exposure to toxic fumes. According to the manufacturer, the kits can be used on dogs, cats, ferrets, rabbits, guinea pigs, birds and more. Each of the city’s fire stations are now equipped with a bag containing a small, medium and large mask, air tubes, instruction sheet, kennel lead, Animal Incident Report forms, pet rescue notice forms, a how-to PowerPoint presentation, window decals and instructional DVD.

“We are very grateful to the Animal Rescue Foundation for this donation,” Seguin Fire Chief Dale Skinner said. “These kits will undoubtedly be useful in providing aid and saving the lives of animals suffering from smoke inhalation and other breathing issues.”

The donation is part of a developing partnership between ARF and the Guadalupe County Office of Emergency Management. The two groups are working together to create an animal response team for animals involved in disasters.



The Animal Rescue Foundation presents the Seguin Fire Department with three Wag'N Pet Oxygen Mask kits. Pictured left to right: Firefighter Michael Orichuela, ARF board directors Diane Kaspar (holding Sunni), Barbara Upper and Peggy Adam, Seguin Fire Lt. Frank Herrera (with Trinity) and Probationary Firefighter Kurtis Kernan. (October 13, 2014)

#### **About the City of Seguin**

Seguin, Texas is located off Interstate 10, about 35 miles east of San Antonio. Seguin is big enough to boast a top-rated university and a state-of-the-art hospital. More than 25,000 residents enjoy a range of cultural, recreational and employment opportunities. Seguin's robust diversified economy features a steelmaker, a manufacturer of automotive parts and plants making roadside mowing equipment and building materials. In 2009, Seguin was proud to be selected by Caterpillar as the site of a major new engine manufacturing facility.

###